Increase in Terrorist Activities in Jammu & Kashmir

982. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to State :

(a) whether incidents of kidnapping/ killings by terrorists have increased in the recent past in Jammu and Kashmir;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor indicating the number thereof during the period January—April, 1992 and so far (month-wise) :

(c) whether some terrorists have recently been released in exchange of some of the kidnapped persons in the State during the above mentioned period, if so, the details thereof indicating the conditions laid down for their release; and

(d) the number of persons of Indian origin still in the custody of terrorists till date and the steps taken so far by Government for their release; and

(e) the amount of compensation paid so far during 1992-93 to the families of the victims and employment given to the members therof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M. M. JACOB) : (a) to (e) The Government of Jammu & Kashmir have furnished the following information :

The terrorist outfits have increasingly resorted to abductions particularly of soft targets in the recent past. These abductions have generally been carried out by them to intimidate specific groups like intelligence personnel para-military forces including police personnel, political activities and leaders, suspected informers, section of the population attempting to defy the dictaters of the militants; and also for extortion/ ransom money. It is also done to create panic amongst public at large or at the behest of their mentors across the border.

90 persons were abducted by the terrorist outfits since 1st January, 1992; 17 in January, 16 in February, 37 in March, and 20 in April (upto 16th April). 7 suspected terrorists were released on bail/parole since 1st January, 1992 in exchange of hostages. On 30th April, 1992, 26 persons were reported to be still in the captivity of terrorist outfits. Effort continue to seek the release of the abducted persons.

Innocent civilians continue to be killed in terrorist action. In 1992, 163 persons lost their lives in the terrorist violence. 77 in January and February, 63 in March, and 23 in April (upto 15th April). By March, 1992 instructions for payment of the ex-gratia assistance to the next of kin of 850 persons killed in terrorist action have been issued.

Increase in Activities by Punjab Terrorists

983. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the incidents of killings/ kidnapping by Punjab terrorists have increased during January—April, 1992 period in Punjab, Haryana, Rajasthan and Delhi recently;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the details thereof (State-wise and in U.T. of Delhi) during the above period;

(c) the amount of ex-gratia payment made so far (State-wise and in U.T. of Delhi) to the families of victims of terrorism during the above period; and

(d) whether the newly elected Government of Punjab have chalked out any Package Plan in consultation with the Central Government to solve the Punjab problem so far and if not, the reasons there for ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M. M. JACOB) : (a) to (c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.